EX PARTE OR LATE

3336 Foxford Court, N. E. Atlanta, Georgia 30340 February 28, 2002

Kathleen W. Abernathy Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington D. C. 20554

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Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I wish to express my vehement opposition to any greater media ownership concentration. A government moving toward a totalitarian state obviously would prefer the greater control of the airways that such media concentration would facilitate. This is what many citizens of the United States fear today, as police state measures have been instigated, and more are being proposed in our country, beyond any ever imagined in an ostensibly democratic society. (Read The Patriot Act and the proposed Patriot Act II being floated).

Using your commissions professed goals: of promoting diversity, localism, and competition, I find these goals provide a compelling argument for maintaining the current laws restricting greater media concentration. Evidence is already plentiful of what happens when a company like Clear Channel Communications gobbles up 1200 radio stations, wresting them from locals with monopolistic maneuvers. There are now 30 percent fewer station owners than there were before the FCC eliminated its rules on radio ownership in 1996. Local coverage and influence is gone, as the same canned generic spots are flooded into numerous markets where they lack relevance, and homogenization occurs, while diversity disappears. Any monopolistic enterprise can under-price, even if only temporarily, to decimate competition, as many previous station owners can attest. Thus, the opposite of free market forces prevail, as competition is destroyed, rather than promulgated!

Courts should rely on historic evidence of what has occurred in similar situations, i.e. radio, when greater media concentration into fewer hands has been allowed. This should enable you to win a court case, if challenged.

Yours truly.

Ruth A. Carter

Ruth a. Carter

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## EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Jonathan S. Adelstein Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington D. C. 20554

Dear Mr. Adelstein:

3336 Foxford Court, N. E. Atlanta, Georgia 30340 February 28, 2002

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FCC - MAILBOOM

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Ruth A. Carter

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